

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

11 RYE STREET, P.O. Box 389

BROAD BROOK, CT 06016

Website: <http://www.eastwindsorct.com>

Regular Meeting Minutes June 20, 2011

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Members Present: Eric Moffett, Richard Covill, James Richards, Josh Kapelner and Ryan Nilsson.

Also in Attendance: Laurie Whitten, Town Planner

Guests: Jim Hendsey, Animal Control Officer; and Peg Hoffman

Chairman Eric Moffett called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at the Planning & Zoning Office, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Hendsey, Animal Control Officer, spoke about the renovations to the dog pound and noted that the costs of the renovations are about \$4,500. Mr. Moffett asked how many dogs they get each year. Mr. Hendsey said they get about 106 dogs per year. He said they all get adopted out. Mr. Moffett asked about non-domestic animals. Mr. Hendsey said they have to call the State but they do provide traps for people to use.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the May 16, 2011. Covill / Nilsson

In Favor: Covill; Nilsson; Richards; Moffett

Abstain: Kapelner

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Welcome Packets for Businesses:

Mr. Richards indicated that STR had contacted him, asking about some type of welcome packets. He noted that the Chamber has talked about welcome packets for about a year and a half. He said there was a suggestion that we do a

partnership with the EDC and the Chamber. They would allow each business to participate. He suggested they try to collect things from the businesses, such as menus from the restaurants or discount cards and coupons, something to give to people that are coming to the town. Mr. Richards suggested that as soon as they have 10 items, they would have a packet. He felt this would be to everyone's benefit. They could utilize the Chamber's resources to promote it. He said they could also get such items as a brochure from the Park and Rec. Dept. with all the activities and programs they offer, something from the Animal Control about how to adopt a dog. Mr. Richards said they could also include a list of all the phone numbers for the various Town departments. Mr. Covill said that maybe we can use our funds to put it all together. Mr. Kapelner expressed concern about using their funding all in one area.

Route 140 Facilitator:

Ms. Whitten explained that \$9,000 was allocated for the facilitator. She said they did an RFP and had interviews and decided to go with Planimetrics. She noted that they sent the RFP to Peter DeMallie. Two other firms also applied. She said they are going to meet with the stakeholders, the property owners along Route 140, as well as the Planning and Zoning Commission. They are still working out the details.

Mr. Kapelner noted that there was a survey that went out and asked about the results of that. Ms. Whitten indicated that the survey went to the Board of selectmen, the Planning & Zoning Commission and the EDC. 10 out of 15 people responded. A list of the survey results was passed out to the EDC members. Ms. Whitten pointed out that this questionnaire was a suggestion of Planimetrics. They wanted to make sure that they are on par with the Plan of Conservation and Development. It was noted that the top 4 choices for uses were retail and services, offices, mixed use and restaurants.

The EDC members discussed when to have the workshops. It was agreed that the week after Labor Day would be a good time to have the workshop.

Commercial Real Estate Listings / Web Site:

Mr. Moffett passed out a property listing form for the Board's review. This would be the form that has the information to be filled out by anyone wanting to have real estate listings on the web site.

MOTION: That we accept the property listing with the addition of time frames provided by the town's web master.

Richards / Covill / Unanimous

Mr. Nilsson suggested adding a web link that takes them right to the listing. Mr. Moffett said we have to sit down with Dave Rajala.

Sign Regulations:

Mr. Kapelner asked if a letter was sent to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Mr. Moffett said that hasn't happened yet. Mr. Richards noted that the existing temporary sign regulations will expire in December. Mr. Whitten indicated that the gentlemen who brought up the whole sign issue has never come in for a sign permit. Mr. Richards felt that the problem was the cost. There was some discussion about enforcement. Ms. Whitten noted that several citations have been sent out for sign violations. She said it takes time and effort. Mr. Richards said that hopefully then can come up with a workable solution for signs. He said they want to make the town business-friendly.

Economic Development Issues:

Ms. Whitten noted that the "big box" site plan approval would be on the Planning & Zoning Commission agenda on June 28.

There was a brief discussion regarding the former Showcase Cinemas site. Ms. Whitten said there has been quite a bit of interest in the site but noted that there are some issues, such as there can't be any semi truck traffic unless you go up Bridge Street. Also there are wetlands and a retaining wall.

Mr. Richards noted that Leslie Hickey was the Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the year. He said that Gary LeBeau and Chris Davis signed a proclamation that was presented to him.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Richards / Covill / Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Bauer, Recording Secretary